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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF UTAH**

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)	CASE NO. 2:24mj537 DAO
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	
FOR A SEIZURE WARRANT AUTHORIZING	)	
THE SEIZURE OF ETHER AS DESCRIBED IN	)	AFFIDAVIT
ATTACHMENT B, FROM THE ETHEREUM	)	
ADDRESSES LISTED IN ATTACHMENT A	)	
	)	<b>UNDER SEAL</b>

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**I**

**BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE**

I, Christian Mickelsen, a Special Agent with IRS Criminal Investigation and a task force agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration, being duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am a Special Agent with the Internal Revenue Service and have been employed in this capacity since September 2000. I possess a bachelor's degree in accounting and have received extensive training in financial investigative techniques. I am currently assigned to the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ("OCDETF") and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Task Force ("HIDTA") at the Salt Lake City District Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") and have been since January 2011. Before transferring to Salt Lake City, Utah, I was assigned to the OCDETF and HIDTA task forces at the Las Vegas District Office of the DEA from October 2004 through December 2010. I have conducted numerous investigations relating to violations of the internal revenue laws (Title 26, United

States Code), the Bank Secrecy Act (Title 31, United States Code), the money laundering statutes (Title 18, United States Code, § 1956 & 1957), and related offenses. In addition, I have been cross designated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) with Title 21 authority to enforce violations of the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act. I have conducted many investigations relating to violations of 21 U.S.C.

§ 841(a)(1), Distribution and Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance, 21 U.S.C. § 843(b), Unlawful Use of a Communication Facility and 21 U.S.C. § 846, Conspiracy to Distribute and Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance.

2. I am presently involved in a federal criminal investigation of Oluwole ADEGBORUWA (ADEGBORUWA) for drug trafficking and money laundering in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), Distribution and Possession with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance; 21 U.S.C. § 846, Conspiracy to Distribute and Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute a Controlled Substance; 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h) – Conspiracy to Launder Monetary Instruments; 18 U.S.C. § 1957 – Money Laundering Involving a Monetary Transaction (“SUBJECT OFFENSES”). I am being assisted by the Drug Enforcement Administration Metro Narcotics Task Force (“DEA MNTF”) located in Salt Lake City, UT (“DEA SLCDO”).

## II

### **PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT**

3. The purpose of this affidavit is to support an application to the Court for a seizure warrant for all funds and the entire balances that exist on, and are linked to, the following Ethereum addresses and corresponding seized recovery seeds:

- a) 0xB34C4e4aC9d4f26E01016894C3ed7715f1c36A8a (0xB34C4)
- b) 0x1f790c5C827a8B6B120064DDdF965B0554025994 (0x1f790)

c) 0x11B3fCDB29Bd188e47c9E8a436aBE317B9d51639 (0x11B3f)

d) 0xFCdfD022558DB3F4C46Ec8b707C586B7dCA2Db5b (0xFCdfD)

4. The above Ethereum addresses are collectively referred to as the “TARGET ETH ASSETS” and are contained in ATTACHMENT A, which is attached to and incorporated herein by reference.

5. Seizure warrants for the assets in ATTACHMENT A are being requested to seize the entire balances of the TARGET ETH ASSETS because: (1) they are, represent, and/or were purchased with, the proceeds of the sale of controlled substances in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) and 846, and/or facilitated such a violation; and/or (2) they were involved in and traceable to transactions conducted in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956 and/or 1957. For the reasons set forth below, there is probable cause to believe the assets in ATTACHMENT A are subject to criminal and/or civil seizure and forfeiture as follows:

#### **Criminal Seizure and Forfeiture**

a. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(a), because the funds are 1) property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of violating 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) (distribution or intent to distribute a controlled substance) and 846 (conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance); or 2) property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of, such a violation;

b. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), because the property was involved in a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956 and/or 1957 (money laundering), are traceable to such property;

c. Consequently, seizure of the property in ATTACHMENT A for criminal forfeiture is authorized by 21 U.S.C. § 853(e) and (f).

**Civil Seizure and Forfeiture**

a. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 881(a), because they are 1) property furnished or intended to be furnished in exchange for controlled substances in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) (distribution, or intent to distribute a controlled substance) and 846 (conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance); 2) a proceed traceable to such an exchange; or 3) money used or intended to be used to facilitate any violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 846;

b. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(A), because the property was involved in a transaction or attempted transaction in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956 and/or 1957 (money laundering), are traceable to such property; and,

c. Consequently, seizure of the property for civil forfeiture is authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 981(b).

6. A restraining order for the funds under 21 U.S.C. § 853(e) is not possible because cryptocurrency such as ETH and BCH are decentralized and not controlled by a single entity. Therefore, there isn't a person or entity that can accept service of the restraining order.

7. Collectively, the above Title 18 and Title 21 criminal and civil code sections are referred to as the "SEIZURE OFFENSES." The United States seeks to seize the assets listed in ATTACHMENT A.

8. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose to obtain search and seizure warrants for the property listed in ATTACHMENT A, I have not included details of every aspect of the investigation. My interpretations of certain statements or words are set forth in brackets and are based upon my knowledge of this investigation and my training and experience, including my 19 years' experience investigating drug and money laundering related crimes. I learned the matters set out in this affidavit from my review of reports, records,

affidavits, etc., through discussions with other law enforcement officers/personnel, and from my own investigation which caused me to believe the information to be true. The references in this affidavit to “agents” is an all-inclusive term referring to Special Agents, Task Force Agents, Task Force Officers, Intelligence Analysts, etc. Dates and times are approximate. Times are in or were converted to Mountain Time (MT) unless otherwise stated.

#### **DEFINITIONS AND BACKGROUND REGARDING VIRTUAL CURRENCIES**

9. Virtual Currency: Virtual currencies are digital tokens of value circulated over the Internet as substitutes for traditional fiat currency. Virtual currencies are not issued by any government or bank like traditional fiat currencies such as the U.S. dollar, but rather are generated and controlled through computer software. Bitcoin (or BTC) is currently the most well-known virtual currency in use. Another type of virtual currency discussed in this affidavit is ether (ETH) which operates on the Ethereum network. Cryptocurrency is a type of virtual currency.

10. Virtual Currency Address: Virtual currency addresses are the particular virtual locations to which such currencies are sent and received. A virtual currency address is analogous to a bank account number and is represented as a string of letters and numbers.

11. Private Key: Each virtual currency address is controlled through the use of a unique corresponding private key, a cryptographic equivalent of a password needed to access the address. Only the holder of an address’s private key can authorize a transfer of virtual currency from that address to another address.

12. Virtual Currency Wallet: A virtual currency wallet is a software application that interfaces with the virtual currency’s specific blockchain and generates and stores a user’s

addresses and private keys. A virtual currency wallet also allows users to send and receive virtual currencies. Multiple addresses can be stored in a wallet.

13. Blockchain: Many virtual currencies publicly record all of their transactions on what is known as a blockchain. The blockchain is essentially a distributed public ledger, run by the decentralized network, containing an immutable and historical record of every transaction utilizing that blockchain's technology. The blockchain can be updated multiple times per hour and records every virtual currency address that has ever received that virtual currency and maintains records of every transaction and all the known balances for each virtual currency address. Some virtual currencies focus on privacy and portions of their blockchains are not visible online to everyone. There are different blockchains for different types of virtual currencies.

14. Blockchain Explorer: These explorers are online tools that operate as a blockchain search engine allowing users the ability to search for and review transactional data for any addresses on a particular blockchain. A blockchain explorer is software that uses API<sup>1</sup> and blockchain nodes to draw data from a blockchain and uses a database to arrange and present the data to a user in a searchable format. Private companies such as Chainalysis and TRM Labs have proprietary software and blockchain analytical tools that further analyze blockchain data.

15. Bitcoin: Launched in 2009, bitcoin (BTC) is a virtual currency that operates on a decentralized peer-to-peer network where the transactions are recorded on a public ledger called the blockchain.

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<sup>1</sup> API stands for application programming interface, which is a set of definitions and protocols for building and integrating application software.

16. Ethereum: Launched in 2015, Ethereum is a decentralized public blockchain with smart contract functionality. Ethereum allows the creation of smart contracts—automated code that can be used to manage financial services. Through smart contracts, one can establish a set of rules for how a financial service will work and deploy those rules to Ethereum. Once a smart contract has been deployed, it cannot be altered. The native virtual currency of the Ethereum network is ether (“ETH”), although other cryptocurrencies can operate on top of the Ethereum blockchain.

### III

#### **FACTS ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE**

17. As set forth in more detail below, I believe that the TARGET ETH ASSETS in ATTACHMENT A contain drug proceeds and were involved in transactions violating the SEIZURE OFFENSES as detailed further in the following sections:

##### **A. Investigation Genesis**

18. In approximately July 2017, the DEA Salt Lake City District Office (DEA SLCDO) received information regarding a drug trafficking organization in Las Vegas, NV that was operating on the “darkweb” distributing pharmaceutical pills such as oxycodone. The DEA SLCDO received information which had been extracted during an investigation conducted by the Dutch National Police into the HANSA Darkweb marketplace.<sup>2</sup> One of the customers identified from the HANSA Darkweb marketplace was Garrett Christopher, who resided in Salt Lake City, Utah, and placed orders for Oxycodone to a vendor known as “Kingodua/Alagbada726.” Based on this information, DEA Special Agent Ely Hebert and USPS Postal Inspector Megan Moore

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<sup>2</sup> The HANSA Darkweb marketplace, like Silkroad and Dream Market, primarily functioned as a black market where people bought and sold items such as drugs, weapons, stolen identities and other illicit goods. These marketplaces were accessed through the Darkweb utilizing specific software such as anonymizing browsers like TOR, described further in a separate footnote below.

made contact with Christopher, who after initially denying his involvement, later admitted to purchasing Oxycodone and recalled some of the packages with a return address located in Las Vegas, Nevada

## **B. Investigation Progression**

19. On March 5, 2018, a Source of Information (hereinafter referred to as “SOI”) came to the DEA SLCDO to be interviewed regarding the online purchasing of illicit Narcotics from the Darkweb. DEA SLCDO Task Force Officer (TFO) Jake Nattress, Special Agent (SA) Ely Hebert, and Intelligence Research Specialist (IRS) Cheye-anne Salyards conducted the interview. Investigators previously received records from Dutch National Police via Europol and DEA Headquarters of Oxycodone purchases by the SOI from an individual who goes by the name “Kingodua” on the Darkweb marketplace called “HANSA.” The records showed six (6) separate Darkweb purchases by the SOI from “Kingodua” from June 30, 2017 through July 17, 2017. The SOI was candid about the SOI’s transactions on the Darkweb with “Kingodua” to investigators. The SOI stated that s/he had a need for oxycodone based on his/her health concerns. The SOI stated the SOI then performed a Google search on how to order pain pills on the internet. The SOI stated the search lead to a “Reddit” article which taught step by step how to purchase drugs from the Darkweb using bitcoin. The SOI stated s/he downloaded a TOR browser and shopped vendors on the “HANSA” Darkweb market. The SOI stated s/he first ordered two batches of 2-4 Oxycodone 30 MG pills from a vendor named “Mike Mcdermitt,” but the pills seemed fake and ineffective and took a long time to ship.

20. The SOI stated s/he then saw a vendor named “Kingodua” who advertised next day shipping to the SOI’s area of Utah. The SOI admitted purchasing Oxycodone 30 MG tablets from “Kingodua” a total of six (6) times, each time in varied quantities. The SOI stated the



packages would in fact arrive the next day if ordered early enough in the day. The SOI stated the first four (4) orders s/he received contained pills that seemed weaker than normal Oxycodone pills. The SOI stated the fifth and sixth batch of pills seemed very potent and the SOI lost consciousness after taking two pills from the sixth order. The SOI stated s/he took the pills from the sixth batch while at a friend's house and when the SOI lost consciousness, the SOI's friend (a nurse) had to use vigorous sternum rubs to revive him/her. The SOI stated the friend told him/her that they were completely unresponsive and that the SOI's face turned blue for several minutes. The SOI stated the vendor "Kingodua" advertised that his/her pills are "non-fent," meaning they did not contain fentanyl. The SOI believed that to be untrue and believed that the pills were fake and probably did contain fentanyl. The SOI said that in hindsight the pills appeared to be flawed from normal factory pills in that they had some imperfect edges in the inscriptions and the blue coloring seemed splotchy and inconsistent. The SOI stated all the pills had the imprints "M/30" on them.

21. After the sixth order, the SOI stopped purchasing these pills online and again sought treatment for her addiction. The SOI stated the pills were shipped in a USPS shipping envelope and were always wrapped in what the SOI described as blue tinted plastic. In SA Hebert's training and experience, this blue tinted plastic is likely Mylar, which is often utilized by drug dealers to disguise and protect the contents of the packages due to its unique barrier properties and strength. The SOI stated the pills would arrive sometimes between two baseball cards to disguise their shape and another time the pills were shipped inside a CD-ROM case. The SOI stated "Kingodua" also used bubble wrap to protect the product during shipping. The SOI stated the two orders of pills purchased from the vendor "Mike McDermitt" were packaged

similarly to the pills purchased from “Kingodua,” in that they both shipped pills between two baseball cards to conceal the shape of the pills in the packaging.

22. The SOI stated s/he did not keep any of the packaging materials, but recalled that the return address on the packages showed as coming from Las Vegas, Nevada. The SOI stated they could not remember an exact address, but remembered seeing the name “Rancho” (possibly Rancho Dr. or Rio Rancho Dr.) on the shipping return address used.

23. The SOI paid \$29 per pill s/he ordered from “Kingodua” and racked up \$5,000-\$6,000 in debt purchasing pills online during a short, approximately one-month long period. The SOI stated when s/he would place with orders with “Kingodua,” the person that responded to the orders used proper grammar and did not use any words out of the ordinary. The SOI stated there was nothing that stood out to in “Kingodua’s” messages that would give any further insight on whom or from where this individual was.

24. Based on the fact that packages were being sent from Las Vegas, Nevada, investigators examined customer reviews for Kingodua/Alagbada726 and found a customer who had ordered drugs from Kingodua/Alagbada726 and had listed an unencrypted address as 18 Woodwell Circle, Amesbury, MA 01913. The DEA issued an administrative subpoena to Federal Express (FEDEX) on March 15, 2018, which was returned on March 22, 2018. In the subpoena return for deliveries to 18 Woodwell Circle, Amesbury, MA 01913, were a list of packages sent from Las Vegas, Nevada. There were 21 shipments to a Matthew Taylor at 18 Woodwell Circle, Amesbury, MA 01913, from 840 S. Rancho Dr., STE 4-626, Las Vegas, NV 89106, under FEDEX shipper customer number 882949982.

25. On March 27, 2018, the DEA issued an administrative subpoena to FEDEX for all information pertaining to customer number 882949982, including payment information and

shipment records relating to deliveries in 2017 and 2018. On April 3rd, 2018, FEDEX responded to the subpoena and confirmed the FEDEX customer number belonged to Oluwole ADEGBORUWA.

26. Based on shipping records provided by FEDEX for shipping customer number 882949982, the DEA issued an administrative subpoena to FEDEX on April 4, 2018, for video of the identified customer sending packages. Video surveillance returned to DEA by FEDEX showed ADEGBORUWA approach the counter and send packages on various dates. The credit card listed under the above listed customer number also came back to ADEGBORUWA.

27. Investigators also learned on the “Darkweb” market place “Dream Market” that “Kingodua” was now using the moniker “Alagbada726” to sell Oxycodone and other controlled pharmaceuticals. They learned, based on his Dream Market activities, that Kingodua/Alagbada726 sold at least Oxycodone and Xanax over the Darkweb. Payments were made by customers using the crypto-currency Bitcoin (BTC). Based on this information, SA Hebert established an undercover (UC) online identity in order to attempt drug purchases with Kingodua/Alagbada726 through Dream Market. SA Hebert then conducted the UC purchase after getting funds to use.

28. On May 3, 2018, SA Hebert, witnessed by DI Cameron Bolman, logged onto Dream Market and obtained the Dream Market BTC address. SA Hebert then copied the BTC address from the Dream Market account and pasted it in the recipient box on the Bitcoin account. When SA Hebert pushed the “Send Max” button, the Bitcoin account total was 0.04893 BTC valued at \$471.91. In order to complete this transaction, a BTC “Miner fee” was also added, which equaled BTC 0.00002 valued at \$0.26, leaving a total for the transaction at BTC 0.048961, or \$472.17. SA Hebert then confirmed the transaction. SA Hebert then went back to the Dream

Market account which showed the balance in the Dream Market account to now be BTC 0.04893454. SA Hebert then went to the vendor site for ADEGBORUWA, who was using the “Alagbada726” account, and placed an order for 10 Oxycodone 30mg pills at a cost of BTC 0.00376, or \$36.40 per tablet. A list of shipping options was provided by ADEGBORUWA and SA Hebert utilized “USPS Priority Mail 2-3 days” at a cost of BTC 0.001239, or \$12.00. SA Hebert then added this to the “cart” on the UC Dream Market account and the total cost for the 10 Oxycodone 30mg pills including the shipping came out to BTC 0.0388, which was approximately \$376.00. SA Hebert then input a shipping address and checked the box “Encrypt message” as well as the box “I understand this order is not using escrow and the vendor is being paid when he sends the package.” SA Hebert then clicked the “Order now” button and received a message stating “Product order confirmed” followed by the note “Alagbada726 has received your order.”

29. On May 7, 2018, SA Hebert contacted Postal Inspector Moore, who conducted database checks with the USPIS (U.S. Postal Inspection Service) and learned a package had arrived at the post office where a Post Office Box had been established for this investigation. Based on this information, SA Hebert and Inspector Moore met at the Post Office to retrieve the package. They then retrieved a package from the undercover Post Office box which contained the ordered purported Oxycodone. The Oxycodone was contained inside a priority mail envelope bearing tracking number 9405536897846368675773 with a return address of “HEARING ASSOCIATES OF LV 2580 ANTHEM VILLIAGE DR STE B-05 MOORE NV 89052-5503.” SA Hebert and USPI Moore transported the package to the Salt Lake City DEA Office where it was processed and found to contain pills consistent with those of Oxycodone,

packaged inside heat sealed plastic and taped inside a CD/DVD case. This packaging is consistent with other packages sent by “Alagbada726.”

30. On September 27, 2018, investigators interviewed Jeremy Onofry at 5450 Oak Point Rd. Lorain, OH 44053 regarding U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail Parcel #9470136897846502927160 addressed to Jeremy Onofry, 5450 Oak Point Rd. Lorain, OH 44053 bearing return address of B and C Camera, 4511 W Sahara Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89102-3760. Onofry signed a USPS Consent to Search form for U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail Parcel #9470136897846502927160. A review of the parcel identified 10 suspected oxycodone pills concealed inside a compact disc case. Onofry stated he purchased the pills from Dream Market Vendor Alagbada726. Onofry signed a consent to search and assume his Dream Market account username “fatsoteaching”. The postal investigator reviewed Onofry’s Dream Market account and confirmed the purchase. A search of Onofry’s Dream Market account revealed 13 additional purchases of Oxycodone and Percocet from various vendors in the past two months. Onofry stated he purchased the pills for personal use because of a back problem. Onofry stated he has never sold any of the pills he had received.

31. On April 12, 2019, Postal Inspector Jamie Wissler, acting in an undercover capacity, accessed Wall Street Market, an online darknet marketplace, to conduct an undercover purchase of Oxycodone from the moniker KingOdua. Postal Inspector Wissler utilized the cryptocurrency BTC to purchase the controlled substance. The approximate exchange rate of one BTC on April 12, 2019, was \$5,792.95 U.S. Currency (“USC”). Vendor “KingOdua” offers various pharmaceuticals. Through the course of the investigation “KingOdua” has been identified as using the Hansa Market, Dream Market, and most recently, Wall Street Market. While acting in an undercover capacity, Inspector Wissler purchased a quantity of 30 Oxycodone

pills from “KingOdua”. The purchase was for 30 pills listed as “1x\$36. Oxy 30mg A215/K9/M30/V48/ALG265/A51/RP30.Pharm Oxycodone” at a price of \$36.00 per piece. The shipping option selected by Inspector Wissler was “USPS Priority Mail 2-3 days (\$12.00)”. It was notated next to the shipping option that the price of shipping would be included in the overall price. A purchase of 30 Oxycodone pills, to include Priority Mail shipping, totaled 0.21564875 BTC, \$1,092.00 USC. The shipping address provided to “KingOdua” was an undercover address controlled by members of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

32. On April 17, 2019, Postal Inspector Wissler notified Postal Inspector Moore the parcel had arrived at the undercover address. On April 18, 2019, Postal Inspector Moore took custody of the parcel. That same day, with the assistance of Postal Inspector Jared Dimick, the parcel was opened and the contents were revealed. The parcel was a USPS Priority Mail envelope bearing USPS tracking number 9405 5368 97846787 9097 18, with a return address of “GTA VIDEO GAMES INC. 529 S LOS ANGELES ST B LOS ANGELES CA 90013-2728.” It had an origin acceptance scan from Gardena, CA 90247, and en route scan through Los Angeles, weighing approximately 0 lbs 3 oz, with affixed EasyPost postage in the amount of \$5.25. The parcel contained: one manila padded envelope with the writing “JW 30” in the top left hand corner and “JW 30 P” at the center envelope, one plain white First-Class Mail envelope, and 30 round, light blue in color pills, containing the marking "e8", appearance consistent with oxycodone 30mg pills. The pills were secured within a small vacuum sealed clear wrapping with the writing “30 JW-P.”

33. On May 23, 2019, agents with the DEA, IRS-CI, USPI and others, while in Las Vegas, NV, executed a federal arrest warrant<sup>3</sup> on ADEGBORUWA and federal search warrants<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> 2:19-mj-349, District of Utah, Judge Evelyn J. Furse, May 16, 2019

<sup>4</sup> 2:29-mj-364/365/366, District of Nevada, Judge Cam Ferenbach, May 20, 2019

on ADEGBORUWA's vehicle and residence in Las Vegas, NV. During the arrest and search warrants, agents seized, among other things, the following:

- a. \$82,687 in U.S. currency from ADEGBORUWA's residence
- b. \$259,356 in U.S. currency from ADEGBORUWA's vehicle

34. In addition, agents seized a "hardware" device called a "Trezor" from ADEGBORUWA's residence that is used to store private keys for virtual currency and is not connected to the internet. Agents also seized "seed phrases"<sup>5</sup> or recovery seeds from ADEGBORUWA's residence which allowed agents to identify virtual currency balances tied to virtual currency addresses. From the Trezor device and from the seized recovery seed phrases, agents were able to seize the following:

- a. 203.4748427 bitcoins from the addresses linked to the Trezor device
- b. 0.80164586 bitcoins
- c. 12.35341936 bitcoins
- d. 0.44212991 bitcoins
- e. 27.9530745762 Ethereum (ETH)

35. On July 10, 2019, ADEGBORUWA was indicted in the District of Utah on one count of Conspiracy to Distribute Oxycodone.<sup>6</sup> The assets listed above were also included in this indictment.

36. After the initial indictment of ADEGBORUWA, agents continued their investigation. Agents analyzed evidence seized from ADEGBORUWA, his vehicle, his

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<sup>5</sup> Seed phrases allow users to recover their virtual currency wallet and access their funds if their device (such as a Trezor) is lost or damaged, or if the password or pin code is lost for a software wallet. Typically, the seed phrases consist of 12 or 24 words. Seed phrases must be kept private and secure as anyone with the seed phrase can access the associated funds.

<sup>6</sup> 2:19-cr-260, District of Utah, assigned to Judge Dee Benson, July 10, 2019

residence and his electronic devices. Agents determined that ADEGBORUWA was involved in a significant drug and money laundering operating and conspired with seven other individuals to include ADEGBORUWA's son, Adewole Adegboruwa, his daughter, Arinola Adegboruwa, and his girlfriend, Ashley Robinson. On January 16, 2020, the grand jury returned a superseding indictment charging ADEGBORUWA with Engaging in a Continuing Criminal Enterprise (CCE), Count 1, and several other criminal violations involving drug trafficking and money laundering, including conspiracy to commit drug and money laundering violations with Adewole Adegboruwa, Arinola Adegboruwa, Ashley Robinson and others.<sup>7</sup> The grand jury returned a second superseding indictment on August 2, 2023 that removed one criminal count and made other slight modifications, but the general substance of the superseding indictment remained.<sup>8</sup>

### **C. Trial – United States vs. Oluwale ADEGBORUWA and Enrique ISONG**

37. On May 6, 2024, the USAO conducted a federal trial against Oluwale ADEGBORUWA and Enrique ISONG (ISONG). During the trial, the United States provided evidence that ADEGBORUWA, as calculated from his own records, distributed approximately 307,985 oxycodone 30mg tablets and earned approximately \$9,327,695 in drug proceeds (Govt. Ex. 630) from the distribution of these oxycodone tablets. The United States provided evidence that ADEGBORUWA was paid in virtual currency, such as bitcoin and Ethereum (ETH), by customers who purchased oxycodone. Furthermore, the United States provided evidence that ADEGBORUWA received approximately \$17,558,857 in bitcoin and ETH deposits to addresses controlled by him, approximately \$1,178,842 in net deposits to bank accounts controlled by him, and only reported approximately \$443,458 in income to federal and state taxing authorities,

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<sup>7</sup> 2:19-cr-260, District of Utah, assigned to Judge Dee Benson, January 16, 2020

<sup>8</sup> 2:19-cr-260, District of Utah, assigned to Judge Jill Parish, August 2, 2023



leaving a variance of reported legitimate income to funds received of approximately \$18,645,684 (Govt. Ex. 606).

38. On May 20, 2024, the jury returned a verdict of guilty on all criminal counts on the second superseding indictment for ADEGBORUWA and ISONG. On May 22, 2024, the jury returned a verdict that all the seized cash, bitcoin, and ETH listed above should be forfeited to the United States.

39. On May 17, 2024, prior to the verdict, I was reviewing evidence in preparation for the forfeiture portion of the trial. While reviewing evidence, I realized that no ETH had been seized from the Trezor device, but rather only the approximately 203 bitcoins as previously stated above. I contacted Elizabeth Bisbee (Bisbee) who testified in the ADEGBORUWA trial and was involved in the seizure of the 203 bitcoins from the Trezor device in June 2019. Bisbee works at Chainalysis and had previously worked for the DEA as a cryptocurrency analyst. She had also been designated as a cryptocurrency expert during the ADEGBORUWA/ISONG trial. Furthermore, she had participated in the investigation in 2019 and had assisted SA Herbert when they had conducted the previous forfeiture of cryptocurrency assets in June 2019.

40. I asked Bisbee if it was possible that Ethereum/ETH remained on the Trezor device. I provided Bisbee an ETH address, 0x1f790c5C827a8B6B120064DDdF965B0554025994, that was listed in ADEGBORUWA's own records titled "ETH Address in Trezor." Bisbee researched this address in conjunction with analyzing this address using the seized seed phrases from the safe of ADEGBORUWA's residence (seized in May 2019 and discussed during the trial). Bisbee was able to determine from a blockchain analytical tool, and reconstituting the wallet balances from the seed phrases, that four ETH addresses had current balances (TARGET ETH ASSETS), that these addresses were

linked to the Trezor device seed phrases, and that the ETH in these wallets could be seized.

Bisbee explained that the DEA had missed the ETH during the original seizure of the bitcoins from the Trezor took place in June 2019 because an Electrum wallet was used and Electrum does not read ETH. The seized recovery seed phrases for the Trezor device identified the following ETH balances linked to the following Ethereum addresses (TARGET ETH ASSETS) as follows:

- a. 0xB34C4e4aC9d4f26E01016894C3ed7715f1c36A8a (0xB34C4) – 45 ETH
- b. 0x1f790c5C827a8B6B120064DDdF965B0554025994 (0x1f790) -  
722.816504835165395888 ETH
- c. 0x11B3fCDB29Bd188e47c9E8a436aBE317B9d51639 (0x11B3f) - 17.66 ETH
- d. 0xFCdfD022558DB3F4C46Ec8b707C586B7dCA2Db5b (0xFCdfD) -  
2220.302731668609418431 ETH

41. ETH addresses 0x1f790 and 0xFCdfD were included in Govt. Ex. 569 during the trial. While compiling Govt. Ex. 569, I noticed ETH addresses 0x1f790 and 0xFCdfD had balances, but I couldn't figure out what device or wallet they were linked to until Bisbee's analysis. Govt. Ex. 569 was a deposit analysis that contained ETH deposits to known ETH addresses. ETH address 0x1f790 was found in ADEGBORUWA's own records on a document that also included bitcoin addresses used by ADEGBORUWA to receive oxycodone proceeds and a bitcoin address used to pay ISONG for oxycodone costs and profits. ETH address 0xFCdfD was listed in an email from ADEGBORUWA to an oxycodone customer as an Ethereum address the customer could send ETH to in an effort to purchase oxycodone. ETH addresses 0x1f790 and 0xFCdfD contain approximately 99% of the ETH and ETH value in the TARGET ETH ASSETS. The total ETH deposited in Govt. Ex. 569 totaled approximately 3,463 valued at approximately \$738,181 at the time of the transactions. These ETH totals were then

included in Govt. Ex. 606. As previously detailed, Govt. Ex. 606 contained a variance of reported legitimate income to funds received of approximately \$18,645,684.

42. I conducted a blockchain analysis on ETH address 0xB34C4 (included in the TARGET ETH ASSETS) and determined that this ETH address obtained all of its 45 ETH in one transfer from ETH address 0xc1fd543674ac03560bb687f841ed4e530412d82d (0xc1fd). ETH address 0xc1fd is the ETH address that contained 27.9530745762 ETH that was seized by DEA in June 2019 and agreed upon by the jury to be forfeited to the United States on May 22, 2024.

43. I conducted a blockchain analysis on ETH address 0x1f790 (included in the TARGET ETH ASSETS) and determined that this ETH address obtained 99% of its ETH, approximately 1,010 ETH valued at approximately \$297,826 at the time of the transactions, from ETH address 0x0d7b5. ETH address 0x0d7b5 was included in Govt. Ex. 569 which stated that this ETH address received approximately 82.8467 ETH valued at \$59,599 at the time of the transactions as payments for oxycodone from an ADEGBORUWA oxycodone customer. I originally discovered ETH address 0x0d7b5 in an email from ADEGBORUWA to an oxycodone customer as an ETH address the customer could send ETH to in an effort to purchase oxycodone.

44. I conducted a blockchain analysis on ETH address 0x11B3f (included in the TARGET ETH ASSETS) and determined that this ETH address obtained all of its 17.66 ETH in one transfer from ETH address 0x0d7b5 (see previous paragraph regarding this ETH address).

45. I conducted a blockchain analysis on ETH address 0xFCdfD (included in the TARGET ETH ASSETS) and determined that this ETH address received approximately 1,039.9285 ETH valued at \$135,778 at the time of the transactions as payment for 4,506 oxycodone tablets from oxycodone customers of ADEGBORUWA. I matched these ETH

oxycodone payments to ADEGBORUWA's own oxycodone sales records that he maintained documenting the sale and distribution of approximately 307,985 oxycodone 30mg tablets as detailed in prior paragraphs.

46. In my analysis of the evidence seized during this investigation, and my review of the evidence presented in the trial of ADEGBORUWA, I was only able to find that Ethereum/ETH addresses were provided by ADEGBORUWA to customers to pay for oxycodone.

47. On May 20, 2024 and May 21, 2024, the United States provided notice to both ADEGBORUWA's counsel and the Court about the newly discovered ETH (TARGET ETH ASSETS) on the Ethereum addresses linked to the Trezor device and the seized seed phrases. See Supplemental Proposed Jury Verdict, Doc. No. 731 (and attachments), in Case No. 2:19-CR-260 JNP (filed on May 20, 2024). Ultimately, the Court determined that the jury forfeiture phase for the previously discussed 10 properties would go ahead (which occurred on May 22, 2024) and that the parties would schedule a jury forfeiture phase for the 11<sup>th</sup> property (TARGET ETH ASSETS) in September 2024.

48. Upon information and belief, I know that, if someone has the seed phrases linked to the Trezor device and outstanding ETH, they might be able to recreate a wallet that would allow them to access the more than 3,000 ETH and transfer it to another wallet. The seed phrases linked to the Trezor device and outstanding ETH was discussed in trial several times (and the jury/court/public) saw an exhibit with this seed phrases during testimony. In addition, the defendant has the seed phrases in discovery. Thus, I have concerns that, if the seizure of these ETH funds (TARGET ETH ASSETS) is not conducted in a timely manner, it might be possible for someone to recreate a wallet to access these funds and transfer them out of the hands of law

enforcement. Currently, the Trezor device and the seed phrases document are in the custody of the DEA in the SLCDO.

V

**ASSETS TO BE SEIZED – ATTACHMENT A**

49. Based on the foregoing, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that the TARGET ETH ASSETS in ATTACHMENT A were involved in violations of the SEIZURE OFFENSES and are subject to seizure and forfeiture.

VI

**CONCLUSION**

50. Based on the foregoing, my training and experience, and discussions with other law enforcement agents and individuals involved in this investigation, I believe that there is probable cause to conclude that violations of the SEIZURE OFFENSES have occurred relating to the TARGET ETH ASSETS listed in ATTACHMENT A.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by Zoom.

/s/ Christian Mickelsen  
CHRISTIAN MICKELSEN  
Special Agent  
Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation  
DEA Task Force Agent

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 30th day of May, 2024.

Daphne A. Oberg  
HONORABLE DAPHNE A. OBERG  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
DISTRICT OF UTAH